

## PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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## COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

## Improvements in or relating to Sponge Mops

We, BETTERWEAR PRODUCTS LIMITED, a British Company, of North Street, Romford, Essex, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention concerns improvements in or relating to sponge mops which are particularly suitable for domestic cleaning as set forth in the Complete Specification of our Patent No. 819,299.

In our Patent No. 819,299 a mop is disclosed wherein the mop head comprises a handle-receiving socket with extensions, two members each including a plate and a block secured to the plate, the extensions of the socket being pivotally connected to one of the plates, a piece of strong flexible material secured to the two blocks with a gap between the blocks, a flat sponge secured to the flexible material, a wire member hingedly connected to the other plate, the wire member being formed with a U-shaped end adapted to engage with the handle and means on the socket for normally retaining the member in place.

Yet a further modification of the mop is disclosed in our co-pending Patent of Addition Application No. 13855/62 (Serial No. 928,986) in which a mop head is provided with a handle-receiving means connected to a single block formed from a substantially rigid material, said block having, in the specific embodiment described, two parallel grooves in the top thereof so that the parts of the block on each side of the groove may be folded towards one another.

It is suspected that constant folding of the parts of the block against the reaction of the sponge may cause the block to fracture

in the region of the grooves, and one object of this invention is to reduce this disadvantage.

It is a further object of this invention to provide an improvement in or modification of the invention disclosed in our Patent No. 819,299 and in our co-pending Patent Applications Nos. 17318/59 (Serial No. 918,539), 46103/61 (Serial No. 920,057) and 13855/62 (Serial No. 928,986).

According to this invention, there is provided the improvement in or modification of the sponge mop according to any one of claims 1 to 4 of the Patent No. 819,299, in which a single block having a substantially centrally positioned portion of reduced thickness is substituted for the two blocks and the flexible material previously secured thereto.

According to a further feature of the invention, the sponge mop may include the modifications described in our co-pending Patent of Addition Applications Nos. 17318/59 (Serial No. 918,539), and 46103/61 (Serial No. 920,057).

Conveniently, the block may be formed from polypropylene or nylon, or any other thermoplastic material, either by fabrication from a sheet or by injection moulding and may be rectangular in shape.

According to a still further feature of the invention, said portion of a reduced thickness may be formed by a groove centrally disposed and parallel to the longitudinal edge portions of the block and may be provided on the underside of the block.

Conveniently, said groove where present may be provided with a central reinforcing rib.

In order that the invention may be more readily understood, one embodiment of the

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same will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

FIGURE 1 is a side elevation of a mop according to this invention;

FIGURE 2 is a plan view of the mop head with the socket removed showing the manner in which the plates are secured, within a recess to the block; and

FIGURE 3 is a perspective view of the block and a sponge is shown with clips being indicated in dotted lines to disclose the manner in which it is attached to the block of the mop head.

In this embodiment the mop head is similar to the head described and illustrated in our Patent No. 819,299 incorporating some of the modifications of our co-pending Patent of Addition Applications Nos. 17318/59 (Serial No. 918,539) and 46103/61 (Serial No. 920,057).

Thus the mop comprises a mop head including a socket 1 adapted to receive a handle 2. The socket 1 is formed with two curved extensions 3 one on each side of this socket.

A member is provided which constitutes a flat plate 4 formed with a central raised hollow portion 5 and lugs 6, the said lugs being slightly offset to the plane of the plate 4. The hollow portion 5 is formed with depending walls 7 and the portion 5 is located between the extensions 3 of the socket 1 and is rockably connected thereto by a pivot pin 8.

The plate 4 is secured to a block generally designated 9 by means of rivets. The block 9 will be described in more detail hereinafter.

A second member is provided comprising a plate 10 having a hollow central part 11 and lugs 12 on each end thereof adapted normally to be positioned under the lugs 6 of the plate 4. This plate 10 is also secured to the block 9.

The block 9, which is substantially rectangular in plan, is provided with a centrally disposed rectangular aperture 13. Furthermore, a groove 14 is provided on the underside of the block which is parallel to the longitudinal edge portions of the block 9 and is also centrally disposed with respect to these edge portions.

A reinforcing rib 15 is provided along the centre of said groove 14.

The plates 4 and 10 are positioned with

their respective lugs 6 and 12 overlapping one another and are rivetted to the block 9 as shown in Figure 2 of the accompanying drawings.

As in our co-pending Application No. 46103/61 (Serial No. 920,057), a sponge 17, which is rectangular in plan, is releasably secured to the block 9 by means of clips 18. These clips 18 are secured to the sponge 17 in such a manner that they protrude upwardly from each of the four corners of the sponge 17 so that they may be engaged in corresponding holes 19 in the block 9.

The groove 14 is of a sufficient depth to allow the rigid block 9 to be bent along the groove so that the sponge 17 may be bent and thereby squeezed.

#### WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. The improvement or modification of the sponge mop according to any one of claims 1 to 4 of the Patent No. 819,299, in which a single block having a substantially centrally positioned portion of reduced thickness is substituted for the two blocks and the flexible material previously secured thereto.

2. A sponge mop according to claim 1, including the modifications described in our co-pending Patent of Addition Application No. 17318/59 (Serial No. 918,539).

3. A sponge mop according to claim 1 or 2, including the modifications described in our co-pending Patent of Addition Application No. 46103/61 (Serial No. 920,057).

4. A sponge mop according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein said portion of a reduced thickness is formed by a groove disposed on the underside of the block.

5. A sponge mop according to claim 4, wherein said groove is provided with a central reinforcing rib.

6. A sponge mop according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the block is formed from polypropylene.

7. A sponge mop substantially as herein described with reference to, and as shown in, the accompanying drawings.

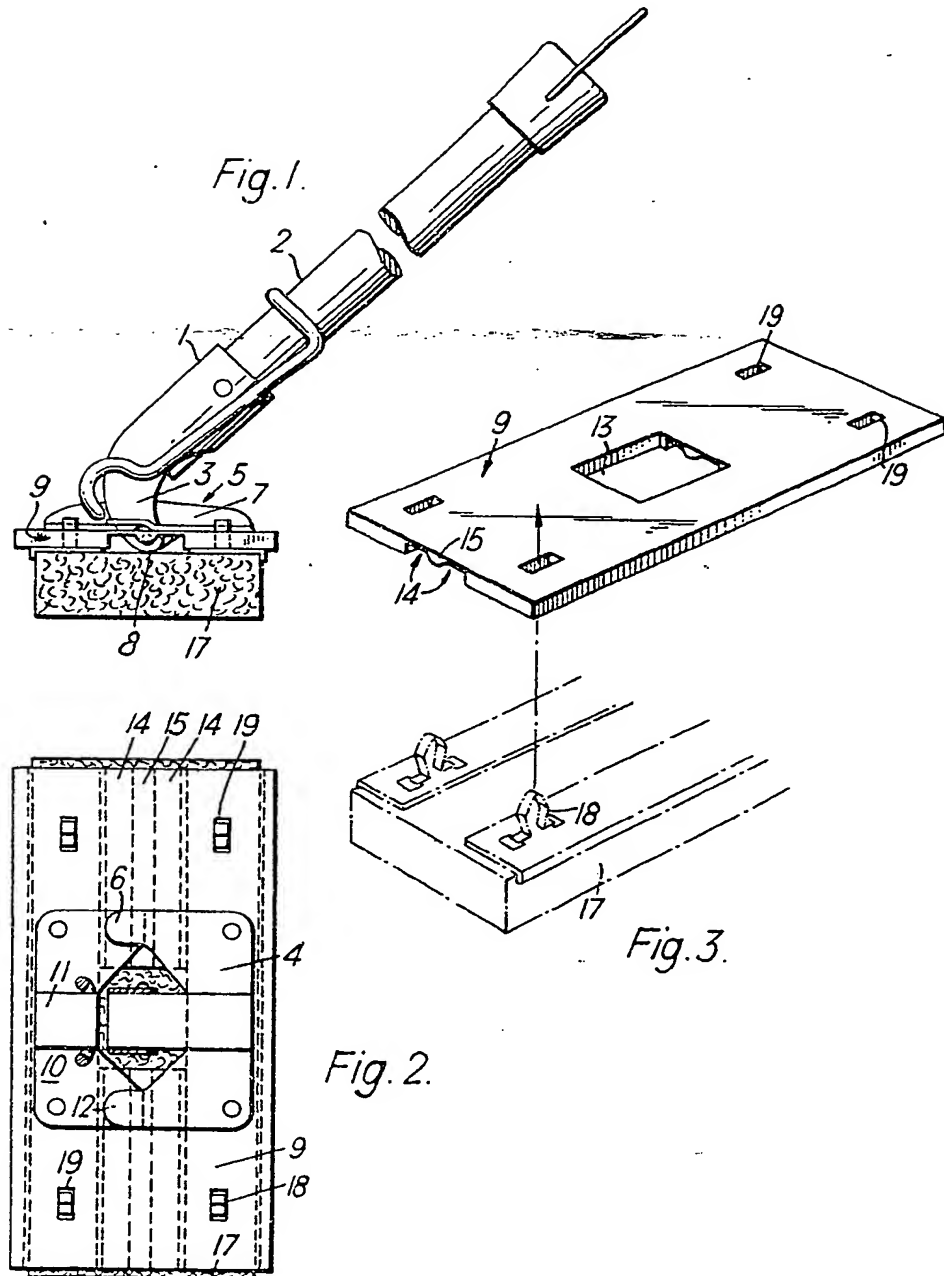
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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

1 SHEET

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